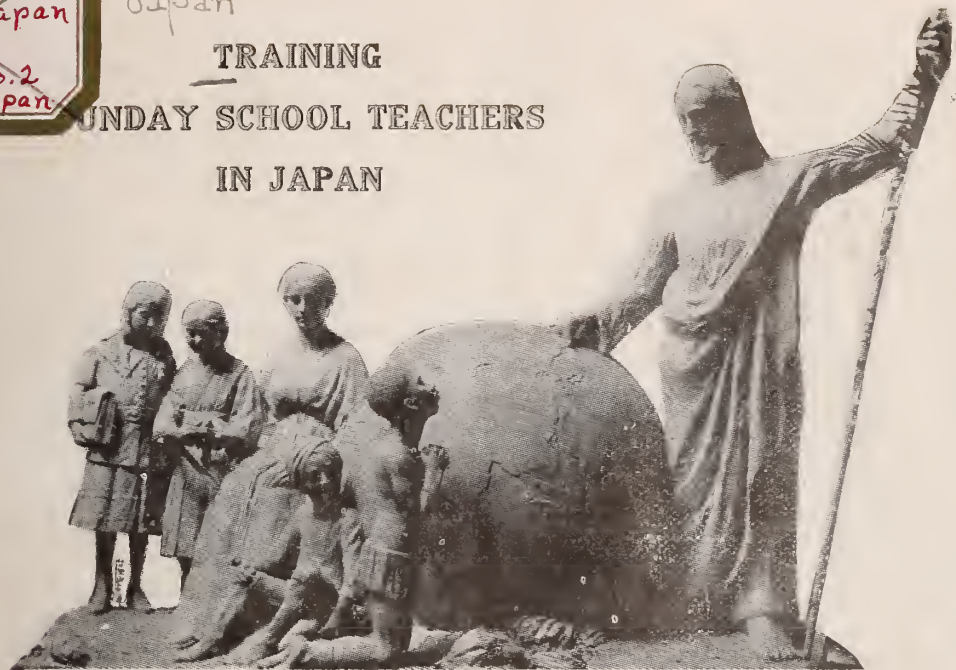




Pam.  
Japan

Day

TRAINING  
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS  
IN JAPAN



THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER AND CHRIST BLESSING THE  
CHILDREN OF THE WORLD.

This statuary group embodying Dr. Brown's idea was made by a Japanese artist and placed in front of the temporary World's Convention building, Tokyo.



The Japanese youth are going after education, but it will be without the Christian religion unless the Christian Sunday Schools give it to them.

How many Sunday School teachers should be trained to reach 15,000,000 children?

This is the problem that faces the Sunday School workers of Japan.

“The Eighth World’s Sunday School Convention in Tokyo may be regarded as the turning point in the history of Christianity in Japan.” This is the opinion expressed by Viscount Kentaro Kaneko, Privy Counsellor to the Emperor of Japan, and once a member of the late Dr. Pentecost’s congregation in Boston. This, the Viscount thinks, because this World’s Convention, which brought together for one single purpose Sunday School workers of many denominations from more than thirty countries of the world, cleared away many difficulties and doubts that had been existing in the minds of Japanese people because of the sectarian views held by the different denominations. To see the representatives of a large share of the Christians of the world meeting together for the one purpose of bringing the child to Christ and keeping him in the church was indeed an inspiring occasion.

The need of using Sunday as a day for spiritual culture is another thing that was learned by the Japanese people according to the opinion of one of the most prominent workers in the Patron's Association. He says that in the past the Japanese have spent Sunday as a day of recreation and pleasure, but that now they realize that it should be spent for spiritual development, and that this development must be based on religion. This same man said that it became clear to the Japanese people that the Christians were striving to propagate the idea of righteousness, truth, and love among all the peoples of the world.

These are reasons that make it imperative that we Christian workers in Japan should enlarge our Sunday School program to reach some millions of the children and young people now growing up, and to provide for them a religious education that they do not get in the secular schools. Word comes from one city that the Sunday School attendance has already doubled since the Convention, and that in other towns and cities the Sunday School attendance has greatly increased. With the turning of public opinion, therefore, in our favor, it is easier now than ever before to build up the Sunday School.

The one essential need, however, for the building up of the Sunday School is trained Sunday School teachers. Our young people are now interested, and ready. It only remains for us to lead them into the opportunity and to provide the means for training. This is the work that the World's Sunday School Secretary for Japan has been emphasizing. In 1916 he organized in Karuizawa the first Summer School for Sunday School teachers. It was conducted for two weeks with an attendance



Jizo or Christ?

Jizo is supposed to be the friend of children in the future world. Thousands of such images are to be found in Japan today.

of 124 people. This school has been successfully carried on for four years, with an average attendance of over one hundred and has gathered people each year from almost all parts of the Empire. It is now conducted for eleven days, including one Sunday, and is organized on the best modern educational principles. A two years' course is provided, and each year contains the following courses.

Old and New Testament,  
Child Psychology, or Educational Psychology  
Organization and Conduct of the Sunday School.  
Principles and Methods of Teaching—general or  
departmental Discussion.

Each year a musical recital is held by the best foreign talent in Japan, and the Foreign Sunday School makes a good demonstration of modern Sunday School methods. This Summer Training School has become the center of Teacher Training in Japan.

## THE PRESENT NEED IS EQUIPMENT

The land has been given by a Japanese business man, and it is absolutely necessary to have buildings before the School can properly develop. In brief, the need is a lecture hall, seating two hundred and fifty people, and four dormitories accommodating two hundred. There will be a social room in each dormitory that can be used by departmental or class groups. It is estimated that the cost of these buildings will be about \$20,000. Besides the regular Training School it will be possible with this equipment to hold an older boys conference and one also for older girls.

One of the chief items in the Japan section of the World's Sunday School Association's budget, which now amounts to over \$12,000, is a \$2,100 appropriation for this Summer Training School, and Teacher Training Institutes. The following is a detail plan for the annual use of this money ;



This small faceless image of "Jizo" is surrounded with votive "Ema" offerings, and is honored by incense and "Sasaki" branches continually, just outside the city of Tokyo.





A Shinto religious festival and drunken revelry.

Summer School, teachers and general expense.....	¥ 1,000
Scholarships, 30 at ¥20 each.....	600
„ 40 at ¥10 each.....	400
Institute, Hokkaido, five days.....	600
Institute, Kyushu, five days.....	600
City Training school subsidies.....	300
Local Institutes .....	500
Miscellaneous .....	200
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Total.....	¥ 4,200

At the finance meeting of the World's Convention the missionaries present subscribed towards the budget of the World's Sunday School Association \$1,200.00 per year, just about one-tenth of the entire budget for Japan. This is abundant proof that the missionaries of Japan are cooperating with the World's Association. This is because the Association in Japan is helping them in their own work. A letter has just been sent out to other missionaries and foreigners in Japan by which it is hoped to raise this amount to \$2,000.00.

Besides this amount, the Japanese delegates at the Convention subscribed about six thousand yen per year to the World's Association, and it is proposed to put this amount into the work thru the Japan National Sunday School Association who have just made out a new budget of ¥13,000.00 per year.



Children of Shinto parents walking in the steps of their fathers.



## THE SCHOLARSHIP IDEA

There are hundreds of young Christians in the country districts and small cities and towns, many of whom are school teachers, who would be glad to attend this Teacher's Training School if they could be provided with some help toward the expense. School teachers have a vacation that they can use in this way, but their salaries are generally so meagre that they need help to attend such a school.

We suggest that Sunday Schools or organized Bible Classes in schools in America raise money for these scholarships. We feel sure there is no better way to promote the Sunday School work in Japan. Whatever the denomination of the class sending the scholarship, this can be used to train a person of the same denomination in Japan. A class or Sunday School, therefore, may in this way have its own Sunday School representatives in Japan, and by receiving a report from a person whom they have trained, the home class will be brought into direct touch with the foreign field that will be helpful and informative.

## WHERE THE HELP GOES

There are many cities in Japan of 10,000 to 15,000 population where there are only two or three Japanese evangelists working and they cannot teach all the children and young people who might be reached. There are many towns under 10,000

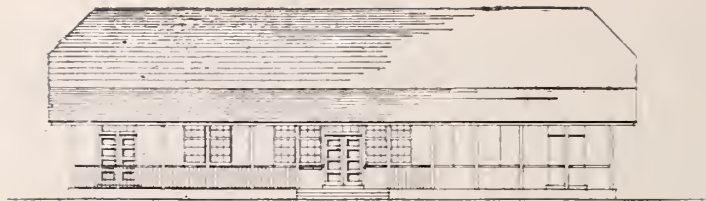


Nurse girls with their babies playing in the Shinto Shrine yard—some of the fifteen million.

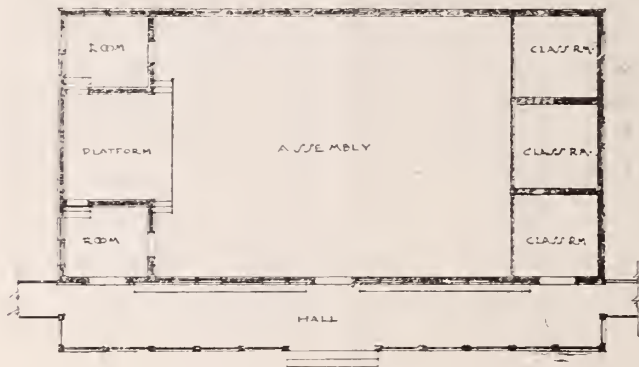
population where there are no Christian resident workers, but evangelists or Bible women make occasional visits to preach or conduct Sunday Schools. One or two trained Sunday School teachers living in such a town would be of great assistance to an evangelist in building up a church in that place. If we can give Sunday School training to the Christians living in such places, we can double the Sunday School enrolment in Japan in a few years.

Japan boasts that over 95 percent of her children of school age are in School, and of these less than one per cent are at present receiving Christian religious training. Japan's leaders are realizing the need of religious training as never before, and the recent World's Convention has turned their eyes with favor towards the Christian Sunday School. We Sunday School workers must, therefore, do everything in our power to meet this great opportunity.

Money for scholarships or for the Summer Training School Buildings may be sent to the World's Sunday School Association, 216 Metropolitan Tower, New York, or to H. E. Coleman, 10 Hinoki-cho, Akasaka, Tokyo,



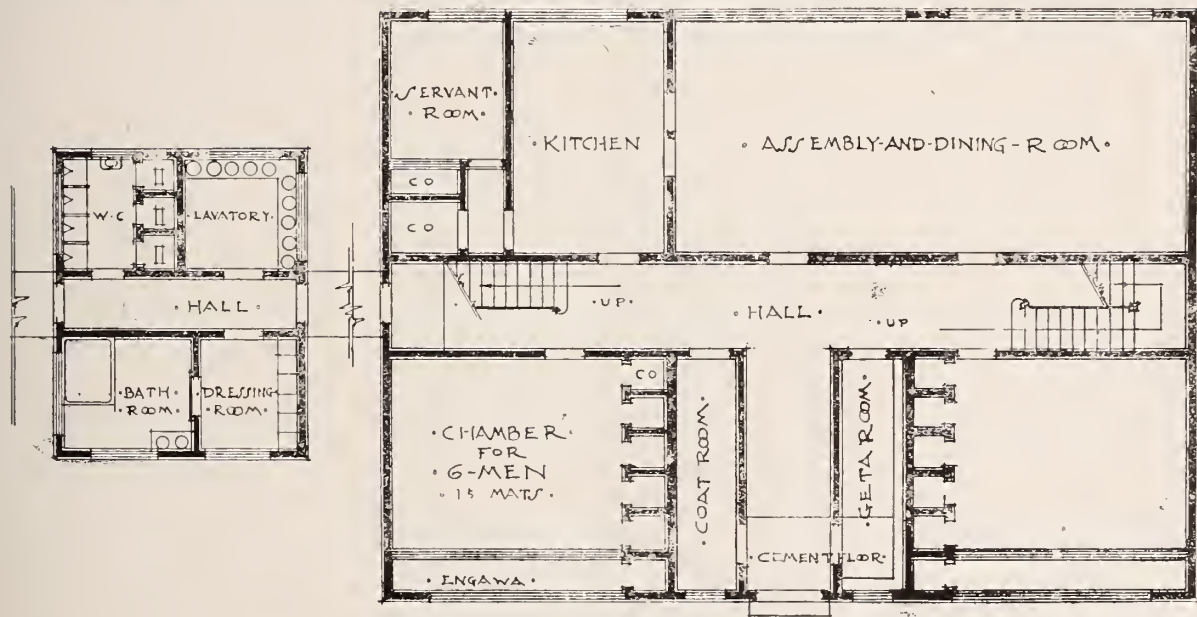
FRONT ELEVATION



Proposed plans for Summer Training School lecture hall at  
Karuizawa,—to seat 250 people.



Proposed plan for dormitories (four are needed) for the Summer Training School at Karuizawa.



• FIRST FLOOR PLAN •

The second floor contains six rooms so that each dormitory will accommodate forty-eight people.





